

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Thus, claims 1, 2, 6, 8-10 and 17-20 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner, thus rendering moot the objections to these claims.

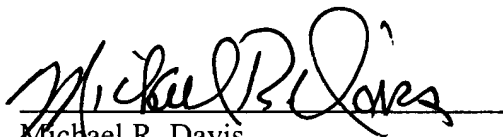
Non-elected claims 11-14 and 21-24 have been cancelled, thus rendering moot the objection to these claims. Applicants emphasize that cancellation of these claims is without prejudice to their rights under 35 U.S.C. §121 to file a divisional application for the subject matter of these claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Mari HARA et al.

By:



Michael R. Davis

Registration No. 25,134

Attorney for Applicants

MRD/pth
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
October 18, 2004